

The Weather:

Not guaranteed . . .

THE DIXIE

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION

"IT SHALL BE DONE"

Dixiedoodle Says:
Orchids to 106 Eng. for
Palm-ed Beach . . .

VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, Friday, March 21, 1941

NUMBER 11

Bands Battle At Opening Of Soldiers' Hall

A well attended musical contest between orchestras from the 114th and 116th Field Artilleries Wednesday night marked the informal opening of Service Club number One, as the huge new Dixie Division recreation hall is officially called. The Club is located on Road C in section A-7, just east of the 114th F. A. regimental area. A formal opening and dedication is being planned.

Three hostesses (a senior and two junior hostesses) and a librarian are hired under civil service by the government to assist in the entertainment of the Division's enlisted personnel. In the future dances will be held, plays and dramatics presented, and games, parties and other recreational activities arranged by the hostess for benefit of the Dixie soldiers. The recreational facilities and playtime equipment will be expanded rapidly as possible. Mrs. Veronica C. Taylor, senior hostess, from Orlando, explained.

Mrs. Taylor, whose office is in the recreation hall, has had a wide experience in her profession. During the World War she, as a member of the War Recreation Board, taught dancing classes for service men and was hostess at parties and entertainments for their benefit in Chicago. Following the war she was hostess and

(Continued on page three)

Captain Can't Kick; It Was A Dream

When a dog bites a man, that isn't news, but when a man suffers injuries from a dog bite given in his dreams—well—that must be something. But that's what happened to Captain Dozier S. Bryan, Commander 2nd Bat., Hq. Btry., 117th F. A.

For some several inches of the good Captain protruded over the end of the bunk, and he was also troubled by nightmares. His tentmates awoke suddenly the other night to the sound of a dull thud and a loud groan. It seemed that the officer dreamed his dog had taken a nip from his bared foot, and had retaliated with a fast right "dog" to the dog. Results: One contorted, unjointed right toe; one bent bed crosspiece.

New Bars

The 124th Infantry Sunday welcomed "home" its Intelligence (S-2) Officer, Captain Thomas T. Long whose home is in Starke. Captain Long, who received his promotion from 1st Lieutenant last week, was attending staff officer's school at Fort Benning, Ga., from December 16 until Sunday.

Hostess To E. M.'s Guests



Already taking reservations for guests in the newly opened Dixie Division hotel, is Mrs. C. W. Chalker, attractive head of this new service. This dormitory is to be restricted to the use of visitors of enlisted men of the Division. Signing up for visiting homefolk, is private Herman Mosby, Service and Ammunition Battery, 114th F. A. Mrs. Chalker will act as chaperone to all visitors and will devote her full time to the task of seeing that they are well cared for.

—Dixie Staff Photo

Thousands See 124th Parade

Visitors estimated to number 5,000 Sunday afternoon witnessed the gigantic 124th Infantry regimental parade, held from 4:45 o'clock to 5:30 o'clock on the 124th's recently enlarged motor pool. During the 45 minute review, 2,500 enlisted men, 115 officers, and over 100 motor vehicles of the 124th passed the reviewing stand located in the center of the grounds.

The troops reviewed were almost equally composed of National Guardsmen and drecently inducted selectees marching together. This was the trainees' first public appearance. So well did the new men display themselves that Col. Fred A. Safay, Regimental Commander said: "They were absolutely outstanding and I could hardly tell them from the others. They marched like veterans, and I am very pleased with their performance." This is the Florida regiment's second mass parade.

Dixie Booster

Firm believer in doing his best to promote the nickname . . . "Dixie" . . . of the 31st Division is Recruit Douglas Ruello, Hq. Det., 2nd Bat., 156th Inf. Ruello wanted a drink of water. He went to the latrine, filled his canteen, and returned to his tent. Walking to his trunk, he opened it, took out two "Dixie" cups, and, before the eyes of his astonished tentmates, poured himself two cups of water.

Engineers Invade Starke Ballroom

It's easy to do . . . Just take a regiment of Engineers, dress them up, add a little soft lights, some sweet music, and, last but not least, over fifty beautiful girls, and you will have . . . socialites!

That was the story at the Regimental Dance for enlisted men of the 106th Engineers last Saturday night at the Armory in Starke.

Sponsored by the Woman's club of Starke and attended by more than fifty girls from the vicinity of Blanding, who acted as hostesses and partners for the Engineers, the dance was attended by only one officer, Colonel Harry Hulén, regimental commander.

The Armory was decorated in the colors of the Dixie Division . . . red and white. A large regimental insignia hung over the bandstand flanked on both sides by gilt facsimiles of regulation collar ornaments. Music was by the 114th F. A. rhythm makers.

Palatka C. Of C. Sponsors Center

Soldiers of the 31st Division visiting Palatka will now have a regular recreational center complete with hostess, games, and other facilities for entertainment with the opening of the Chamber of Commerce Hall for the military personnel of Camp Blanding.

The hall is located on the first floor of the Welch building on S. Second Street, just off the main business district.

The American Legion Auxiliary is furnishing the hostess.

Dixie Hostesses Open Hostlery For Soldiers' Visitors

Dixie Progress Again Viewed

With four visiting generals to make the occasion star-studded, the Dixie Division began a "total inspection" Thursday, its second since induction. Covering all phases of military progress within the Division, a long series of demonstrations are being carried out by picked units, all closely scrutinized by inspection officers from Fourth Army Corps Area headquarters. Again Friday many units were taking to the field to show the abilities conceived during the past four months of intensive study and activity. The two-day inspection exempts selectees.

Lieutenant-General Brees, Corps Area commander, together with Major-Generals McNair, and Benedict and Brigadier-General Akins are within the Division area observing the inspection maneuvers and noting the progress made by the 31st Division.

The actual inspection officers are from the Corps Area headquarters, and are 14 in number. Dixie units inspected included the 156th and 167th Infantry and the 116th and 117th Field Artilleries. Units requiring two days for complete inspection include the 124th and 155th Infantry, 106th Engineers, 106th Medical, 106th Quartermaster, M-P Company and Division Headquarters Company. Inspections were being made Friday in the 61st, and 56th Brigades, the 114th Field Artillery, and the 106th Ordinance Company.

Barbecue Added To Officers' Mess

The officers of the 124th Infantry will hereafter frequently enjoy barbecued meats. The regimental officers mess this week built a brick and mortar "pit" between the officers' mess hall and the canteen. The edifice is approximately a 6 foot by 4 foot rectangle, a yard high. The meats are placed on interwoven steel strips placed over the top of the pit.

Co. A, 155th, Wins

A team composed of recruits and regulars of Co. A, 156th Inf., beat a team from Service Co., 155th Inf., 11-2 last Sunday afternoon.

The guest house of the 31st Division Service Club was informally opened this week to relieve the crying need for suitable quarters to lodge relatives of Camp Blanding enlisted men ill in the Station Hospital, Mrs. C. W. Chalker, junior hostess in charge of the guest house, said yesterday of the guest house, announced.

The guest house is in reality a two-story hotel for the exclusive use of the wives, parents, sweethearts and friends of enlisted men of the Dixie Division. There are 26 nicely and comfortably furnished rooms available for the small charge of 50 cents per person per night. The house has four large public bathrooms. Although it is a separate building, the guest house is part of the Service Club Number One, which includes the new division recreation hall. The structures are adjacently located in section A-7, on Road C.

In charge of the guest house is Mrs. Chalker, of Starke, Florida; dignified, hospitable, capable. The widow of the late Major Chalker, U. S. Army, Mrs. Chalker is well qualified to cope with the problems confronting her in her new role as hostess, for Major Chalker was Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Lee High University, Bethlehem, Pa., and later at Gulf Coast Military Academy, located in the heart of the Dixie Division states at Gulfport, Miss. Mrs. Chalker has two sons, both attending The Citadel at Charleston, S. C.

Due to change of time of Retreat and evening meals in the various organizations, theatre schedules in the Division theatre have been changed. The first show on week-days will be at 6:30 p. m.

NOTICE

The following notice has been received at the office of the Dixie from the office of the Adjutant General . . . LOST: Mr. H. Harrell of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, reports the loss of a large English bulldog, named 'Sergeant.' He is white with black ears and eyes and a short stubby tail. Reported seen at Camp Blanding. Anyone having information on this dog will please call 286." (Editor's note: Mr. Harrell, we have quite a few stray dogs here answering to the name "Sergeant." Did your dog have an ugly disposition and go around biting private's heads off?)

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
Dixie (31st) Division
Camp Blanding, Florida

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F. A.; 2nd Lt. Jack Parsons, 117th F. A.

The Dixie is published Friday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Division Headquarters.—Phone 240.

PROGRESS CHECK

Pride that comes only from the knowledge of having done well their job, swelled chests over the entire Dixie Division this week as inspectors made the second "all-out" inspection of the division's training progress. Although reports of the official check haven't been revealed, commanders of companies, regiments, brigades, and the commanding general of the Division itself are confident that results will speak well for the diligent training effort which has been expended.

MORALE NOTE

An insight into the spirit which prevails throughout the Dixie Division is revealed in the way the various units have solved problems peculiar to this training center. Take the matter of messhall sanitation: Few Dixie units had experience with the sand-borne difficulties they found at Blanding; but little time had passed before mess sergeants and cooks found acceptable methods of keeping floors clean—despite the sand. Company commanders and mess officers compared methods, swapped ideas, profited by each other's experiences. Now inspectors' score-cards are out of the red.

When confronted by problems, large or small, the Dixie soldiers' attitude is that "It Shall Be Done."

THEATRE MEMO

Following is a schedule of attractions to be shown at the 31st Division Theatre during the coming week. Attention is called to the fact that opening time of the Theatre has been changed from 6 to 6:30 p. m. Matinees will continue to be shown at 2 o'clock on Saturdays and Sunday, with one performance only.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21—"Diamond Frontier," featuring Victor McLaglen and Ann Nagle.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22—Double Feature—Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette in "Carolina Moon" and "I'm Nobody's Sweetheart Now," featuring Dennis O'Keefe & Constance Moore.

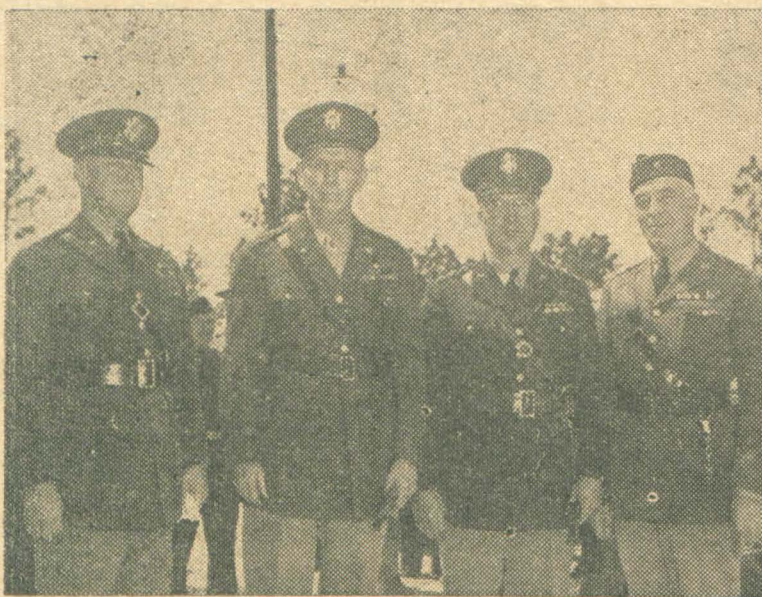
SUNDAY & MONDAY, MARCH 24 - 25—"Kit Carson," featuring Jon Hall and Lynn Bari.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25—"A Little Bit of Heaven," starring Gloria Jean and Robert Stack.

WED. & THURS.—MARCH 26 & 27—"Hit Parade of 1941," with Kenny Baker, Frances Langford, Hugh Herbert and Mary Boland.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28—"Gallant Sons," featuring Jackie Cooper, Bonita Granville, Ian Hunter and Gail Patrick.

Stars Fell On Dixie



There were enough stars in sight in this picture (twenty in all) to fill the milky way. The picture was taken as Major-General John C. Persons, Dixie Divisions commander, received General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, making a flying inspection of progress in this training camp. Generals in the picture are Major General Benedict, Fourth Corps commander, General Marshall, Major-General Persons and Major-General Payne, 43rd Division Commander.

—Dixie Staff Photo

DIXIE'S TEN COMMANDMENTS STAND AFTER 23 YEARS

Back in the days of World War I, soldiers of the 31st Division were embarking for service in the trenches of Flanders. As each man went up the gang-plank to the ship, he was handed a pamphlet, bearing the ten commandments of the Dixie Division, written by Major General LeRoy S. Lyon, and with an eleventh commandment written by General C. B. Hodges. The commandments were later widely published, and accredited to Marshal Foch. These are the commandments:

1. Keep your eyes and ears at the ready, and your mouth at the safety notch, for it is your soldierly duty to see and hear clearly; but, as a rule, you should be heard mainly in the sentry challenge or the charging cheer.
2. Obey orders first, and, if still alive, kick afterwards if you have been wronged.
3. Keep your arms and equipment in good order; treat your animals kindly and fairly and your motor or other machine as though it belonged to you and was the only one in the world. Do not waste your ammunition, your gas, your food, your time, nor your opportunity.
4. Never try to fire an empty gun nor fire at an empty trench, but when you shoot, shoot to kill and forget not

that at close quarters, a bayonet beats a bullet.

5. Tell the truth squarely, face the music, and take your punishment like a man; for a good soldier won't lie, doesn't sulk, and is no squealer.
6. Be merciful to the women of your foe and shame them not, for you are a man. Pity and shield the children in your captured territory, for you were once a helpless child.
7. Bear in mind that the enemy is your enemy and the enemy of humanity until he is killed or captured; then he is your dead brother or your fellow soldier beaten or ashamed, whom you should no further humiliate.
8. Do your best to keep your head clear and cool, your body clean and comfortable, and your feet in good condition; for you think with your head, fight with your body stand and march with your feet.
9. Be of good cheer, and high courage, shirk neither work nor danger, suffer in silence and cheer the comrades at your side with a smile.
10. Dread defeat but not wounds; fear dishonor but not death, and die game.
11. Whatever the task remember the motto of the Dixie Division, IT SHALL BE DONE.

Dixie Soldiers Meet First Lady

It may be a gag to most people, but Corp. Joseph C. Landry, Pfc Leroy J. Verrett and Pvt. A. J. Aucoin Co. G, 156th Inf., can verify the fact that Mrs. Roosevelt might turn up at almost any corner. They decided to see the airport at Jacksonville, and while there, a large transport came in. One of the ladies stepping from it seemed familiar, so they went closer. It turned out to be our first Lady.

She talked to them a moment, and Private Aucoin reported: "We assured her that the pleasure was all ours because we were not only citizens but soldiers under the

command of her husband." He added: "I guess we'll be telling our grandchildren about it."

Another Wedding In Dixie Ranks

Latest to take the matrimonial leap is Pfc. Martin F. Dryden, Co. A, 156th Inf. He was married in Jacksonville to Miss Mildred Franque, of Baton Rouge, La., March 8. Lt. Lionel J. Champagne, also of Co. A, was best man at the wedding. The Bride's brother, Pfc. Leo Franques attended. Also present were the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Franques, who motored from Baton Rouge for the ceremony.



The carpenters of Co. C, 156th Infantry, are wearing desperate expressions these days. It seems that ever time they get a board walk put in place in the company street, someone decides there must be a better type of walk to be found, and they have to begin all over again. At the present count, they claim to have put down four complete sets of sidewalks, and are holding their breath.

There are some people who have an answer for anything. A young private had invited his O. A. O. down for the week-end, and had prepared her for the trip by telling her what a big shot he was. When they stepped out for dinner, quite a few officers and soldiers were in the cafe. The lass glanced about the room, and saw a Corporal with his two stripes to her swain's one. For a moment, he was stumped, but with the quick explaining ability inherent in all top-notch privates, he waved a superior hand. "That—?Why this one stripe means I'm a first class—he's just a second class Private."

The time had come for reveille in Hq. Btry., 2nd Bn., 156th Inf. The whistle had blown for the men to fall out, and they waited in an expectant line for the "top" to give the exercises. But no one appeared—. Another sergeant took charge, and arms began swinging. Just then a car drove up, and from far in the depths, the sleepy voice of First Sergeant John C. Dusang, just returning from leave: "Aren't you guys up a little early?" Of course it was just one of those things—he had forgotten to set his watch at the time-zone, but we wonder who did the "reaming."

We hate to bring up the subject of Corporal Neville Harrington again, but, as he says: "things just follow me around waiting to happen." For the past few days, the photographer of the Press section has been going around the area with a sour expression and a bitter outlook on life. Finally he decided that something had to be done. In a rather halting voice, he asked of the crowded editorial office: "Does anyone in this section know enough Spanish to tell me what this gal meant by saying amor at the end of her letter?" Someone spoke up, "Sure, it means love." Corporal Harrington let the joy show through his features. "Gosh," he said, "It had me worried—I knew Armour made some kind of meat, and I thought she might be calling me something."

And a word for leg man Bob Fowler of the 116th F. A., editor, reporter, copy boy, printer and delivery boy of the "bulletin board," official mouthpiece of Col. Hesterly's fine regiment. He is boasting of a 25 copy increase in circulation of his tri-weekly rag, due to the arrival of 265 selectees. By the way—his wife has joined him here and is now living in Starke.

Add—sad situations: He had a wonderful system of avoiding work. When the call came for men in the company street to go on a detail, he would calmly crawl under a bed, and never be noticed. One day several privates were sitting on the beds above his head when an officer entered. "Attention," someone shouted. Instinct was too much for the "goldbricker" and the bed was halfway to the ceiling before he remembered. You know the rest.

Maybe some of these rookies will learn—at least let's give them a chance. The other day a certain Lt. in the Medical Regiment was knocking out his daily afternoon snooze, when an excited Med. Soldier came dashing up. "An officer is in the dispensary, and he is in an awful hurry to get his third inoculation." The Lt. leaped to his feet, throwing on his clothes, and practically frothing with excitement. (He couldn't be sure of the officer's rank). The young Medico arrived at the dispensary—and found a corporal waiting. When asked why he said an officer wanted work done, the abashed new soldier replied: "They told us they were non-commissioned officers when they had stripes."

All Expense Tours For Blanding Men

The need has arisen, through many of the men training feeling they will go back to their homes and see nothing of picturesque Florida, or its famous "points of interest." No one knows when they may be able to get back to do so, and how expensive it might be. U. S. TOURS are planning trips to Tampa, St. Augustine, Miami, Daytona Beach, Silver Springs, and shorter trips for men with limited leave. Everything has been done to keep the cost minimum.

The first tour will be to Tampa, over the week end of April 5th, and will have to be limited to 200 officers.

Orange Buses will leave the camp at 1:30, April 5th, a short stop on the way down, arriving at the beautiful Tampa Terrace Hotel, in time to check in, to attend a cocktail party which is in their honor, to meet 175 women from the PILOT CLUB, who are holding their State Annual Convention at that time, also 50 young Junior League girls. Dinner will be served, then to the magnificent Palm Room, for entertainment (the management will have some talent from Ybor City to put on a Spanish Fiesta), dancing to the finest band in Florida, which has been secured for this event. They will spend the night at the Tampa Terrace Hotel, and breakfast and lunch Sunday.

Tickets will be on sale at the Orange bus station, and the Chamber of Commerce building, including everything will cost \$15.00, which is equal to \$30 worth of fun on anybody's money. Reservations will have to be made early and not later than April 1st.

One thing might be added the new addition to Starke and Camp Blanding, in the person of Isabelle Walsh, the executive secretary, while still on the safe side of thirty, and works like a hound dog to keep that "streamlined" look, got a lot of good experience on what army men like, having helped her ma with such activity during the last "clambake," and whose career since has been in the "theatre," movies, radio smart clubs, hotels and public relations work has a pretty good idea of what "fellers" like! Selah!

Staggered Paydays For Blanding Boys

According to a memorandum issued by Camp Headquarters, the payrolls of various units, now in this home of sand dunes, will be staggered each month with each unit receiving first payment in rotation.

The schedule for the Dixie Division during the balance of the year is: April 6, April 30, June 3, July 6, July 31, Sept. 3, Oct. 6, Oct. 31, Dec. 3, and Jan. 6. When any of these paydays fall on Sunday or a holiday, payment will be made on the following day.

Taking All Comers

With a plaintive note in their voices, but a murderous gleam in their eyes, the Special Troops softball team holds up its collective hands and begs for attention. It seems that with several teams in the Camp boasting undefeated records, these Mobile lads have been unable to get anyone to accept their offer to play any and all comers. Any takers?

Reading, Writing Taught Soldiers In New School

One-hundred and twenty soldiers of the 167th Infantry's 2,660 are not only being taught the military way of life, but are learning also reading, writing, and arithmetic by night at a special school in these subjects which began Monday night.

Among the 840 Alabama Selective Service trainees received week before last into this Alabama regiment were 105 who either could not read or write at all, or, at the most, very little. Among the National Guardsmen of the regiment were 15 enlisted men in the same category. Lieutenant-Colonel James A. Webb commanding officer of the regiment, when advised of this condition, decided immediately that these young men should have opportunity during their year of training not only to learn the things military, but should also have the chance to become better and more useful soldiers and citizens through liberal education, so planned the organization of a school.

A three-pole tent, 90x40 feet in dimensions, was obtained and erected in the officers' quarters area of the 167th. Benches, tables, teachers' rostrum, blackboards, and electric lights were installed. The Florida Department of Education agreed to furnish the three teachers necessary and the school officially opened Monday night with an enrollment of 120.

The school is divided into two sections: a basic section for those who can not read nor write at all, and an elementary section for those who have a slight knowledge of the arts. The school is in session three hours every night except Saturdays and Sundays.

Supervising the school is First Lieutenant James E. Barber, formerly of Talladega, Ala., who is the Plans and Training Officer and Adjutant of the 167th's provisional regiment formed for the purpose of training the selectees.

Socialites Swing Between Caissons

The "Company F Sergeant's Club" of the 124th Infantry sponsored a dance at the "Pines", a night club near Jacksonville, Saturday night. The Sergeant's Club extended an invitation to all sergeants in the 124th to attend and a large crowd of non-coms enjoyed the dance.

Shiver My Timbers! . . . And Cut My Wood



These boys of the 114th Field Artillery demonstrate how to make "toothpicks out of tall timbers"—and brawn out of plush, as they rehash a bit of native growth for the purpose of keepin' the cook's fires burnin'. It seems that these boys have had a plenty tough job down there with the 114th all on their hands and only 36 enlisted men in the Service Battery (which, by the way, is Service & Ammunition Battery under the new set-up.) But they flew through it.

—Dixie Staff Photo

PULLING TOGETHER

An observer's idea of the manner in which the Dixie Division is going about its training at Camp Blanding is portrayed by the following editorial from the Hilliard, Fla., Enterprise, edited by Judge A. E. Wade:

Talk about teamwork. If the people in our counties would work together like they do in the army training camps we would surely get something done—and how! Take down at Camp Blanding where the government is training some several thousands of men how to be soldiers, and more, because they are also training them to do more than be soldiers. They are showing them how to do things that will make them better able to proceed through life in a more congenial manner. They are teaching them the old method of team work—an art that has nearly been lost in this rapid age of each man for himself.

Do you know that in the olden times, or say 30 or 40 years ago, if a farmer wanted to build a barn, he got the materials on the ground and cut some of the things to measure. Then he invited all his neighbors to the barn raising. When they arrived they fell to work and it was no time before the barn was up. Team work. They did the same thing in husking corn. Each farmer would have a husking bee

and the boys and girls would husk his sacks of corn and end up with a friendly dance. Some more team work, and that is just what the government is doing to those young men—teaching them team work—how to get together and work to get the most done in the shortest time and easiest way.

You can go to Camp Blanding every day and each day you will find some new changes. The place is continually changing—in fact you will get lost if you miss going a day or two.

By the way, have you ever been down there? If you have you will bear me out in this statement that there is not a finer bunch of men than in that post, from the commander down to the buck private. You will find them very courteous and obliging, going out of their way to give you proper directions, in case you are lost.

We have called on the band of the 124th regiment and from the bandmaster down to the drummer boy, you will find a fine group of men—not a sorehead or grouch in the entire outfit. Then go over to the press section and you will find another fine group, and another fine group of men, mostly officers, stationed at camp headquarters.

These men are doing a year of intensive training, making them better able to work together when they are sent home. When their time is up they will return home and another lot will take their place.

Bands Battle

(Continued from page one)

handled the hiring of orchestras, program arrangement, and other details at a Tampa amusement park operated by herself and her husband, who incidentally, was a World War veteran.

Assisting Mrs. Taylor as junior hostess and in charge of the club cafeteria is Mrs. Betty Ball Brown, of Sanford, a native of Florida. Mrs. Brown was formerly a dancing school teacher in Sanford and was active in little theatre groups and children's theatre guilds there. She opened and managed a model kitchen for the Jacksonville (Florida) Gas Company, making a 15 minute radio broadcast "Come Into The Kitchen" daily. At one time she was home economist for the Sanford Gas Company.

The other junior hostess is Mrs. C. W. Chalker of Starke, Florida, who is in charge of the guest house.

Mrs. Elinor K. Evans, of Jacksonville, for seven years a librarian in the municipal library of that city, is Camp Librarian Number One and will supervise the 5,000 volume recreation hall library.

One of the feature points of the recreation hall is the large auditorium, with a balcony surrounding it on three sides. Shiny chrome furniture with imitation leather upholstery is plentifully supplied throughout the building. In the auditorium is a cold drink vending machine and an electric phonograph—the floor is smooth and polished for dancing. In the north wing of the building is located the modern cafeteria, but neither the cafeteria nor the library, located in the south wing, will be open until after April 1, Mrs. Taylor stated.

Fast Talking

Major Maxwell C. Snyder, commander of the second battalion, 124th Infantry, this week installed an inter-communication between his headquarters tent and the battalion's five company headquarters tents.

The system allows the battalion commander to talk to all companies at once, or, by turning a dial, to talk to just one company individually. The 124th first battalion has had a communication system for several weeks and the third battalion plans an installation next week.

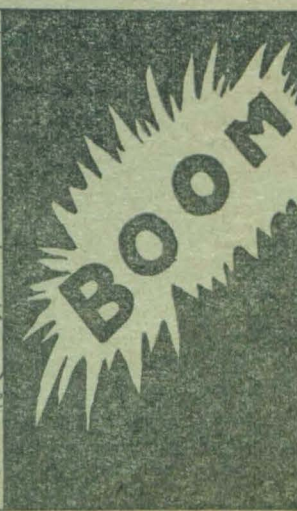
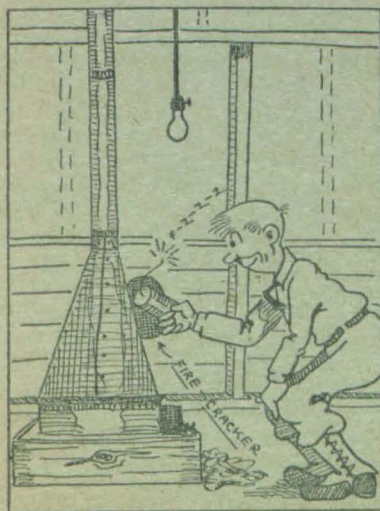
Non-Coms Plan Helpful Club

The first sergeants of the 124th Infantry's First Battalion last week formed "The First Sergeants Club of the First Battalion" for the purpose of promoting efficiency and coordination in their battalion. First Sergeant Ira S. Thompson of Sanford, was elected Chairman. The club was formed March 13.

Bucket Brigades Back In Style

Due to a shortage of fire extinguishers, only buildings will be equipped with this fire fighting equipment, but every company will be issued one water bucket to each two tents in the unit. The buckets are to be hung in groups of four in available places, not more than 100 feet from any tent.

How To Clean A Stove In ONE Easy Lesson



Gunner's Sgt. Doesn't Envy The Mudsloggers

He's the unsung hero of the Army, this gunner's sergeant. No stirring moving pictures are made of him engaged in hand to hand combat with the enemy. In fact, hardly any pictures are made of him at all.

"He just rides around in his truck 'goldbricking' . . . thinks the average infantryman plodding along the road as an artillery truck whizzes by. 'Gosh, it must be fun to be an artilleryman.'"

But contrary to the opinion of the infantrymen, it's not all riding around on trucks "gold-bricking." The artillery must follow the infantry, supporting it with heavy fire at all times.

When the footsoldiers move up 2 or 3 miles, the brawny artilleryman must hastily move out of their entrenchments, cover up all traces of their occupation, drag the guns to the roads, hitch on to trucks, move, dig in, fire, and be ready to move out again seconds or minutes later.

Sgt. N. J. Strickland, Battery A, 156th F. A., is a typical gunners sergeant or "chief of section" as he is officially called. "On the guns off and on for about ten years," he wouldn't change his job for any other in the Army.

"It's hard work," he thinks, "but it's fun in the long run. I've always loved the smell of the gunpowder, the excitement of getting ready to fire, the tense moment before the gun goes off, and then the final deafening roar and blast of the actual firing."

"And I get to know the men under me better than the line sergeants in infantry outfits do. I have only five or six as compared to their ten or twelve. Where, in the infantry, each man is an individual fighting unit, in our sections it is essential that the squad work together as a team. When a shell falls into an infantry squad, only two or three men are hit, but when we are located by the enemy, a whole squad or section is wiped out."

"But regardless of the danger in fighting with an artillery section and the hard work in getting ready to fight, I wouldn't change with John Infantryman for the world. It gets in your blood, I guess."

They Finally Met

The famed "Battle of Bands," fought by the 116th and 114th Field Artillery orchestras Wednesday night, saw the informal opening of the Dixie Division's new recreation hall and drew a capacity crowd of 2,000 soldiers. The musical contest ended in a draw with everybody happy.

Lt. Joseph Bonner, recreation officer of the 156th Infantry, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the orchestras, judges, and the three divisional hostesses to the enthusiastic audience. Judges were C. F. Elton, 167th Infantry and Frank Rosato, 156th Infantry, both warrant officers and band leaders in their respective regiments, and A. R. Teta, warrant officer and leader of the 43rd Division's band units. The tie resulted when judges returned a decision giving a vote to each orchestra, with one judge voting for both.

Each orchestra made three alternate appearances, playing three numbers each the first two times and both concluding with a single red-hot swing specialty. Walter Bean, of Tampa, Florida, is leader

Presenting Dixie's Hostesses



In an informal get-together, two of Dixie Division's Division's hostesses meet some of the boys they will entertain during the coming period of service. In the picture are Corp. Jim Watts, Sgt. Wright P. Still, Mrs. Betty Ball Brown, in charge of the cafeteria, Mrs. Veronica C. Taylor, senior hostess in charge of the Recreation center, Sgt. William Harrington and Pvt. Herman Mosby.

—Dixie Staff Photo

of the 116th orchestra and had the crowd cheering his inspired trumpet choruses.

Carl Johnstone, of Oxford, Miss., lead the 114th group and vocalized two songs. Both orchestras presented a novelty vocadence: Buck Bradley of the 114th rolling the customers in the isles with "Alice," and Michael Trotter of the 116th getting a big hand for a unique interpretation of "Between 18th and 19th on Chestnut Street." Between the last numbers and the decision Hayes Herbert, selectee in the 156th Infantry from New Orleans, and a former professional tap dancer, was encored on some fancy tapping.

New Voice Sounds In Free-For-All Of Dixie Bands

The warning has sounded for all unprotected orchestra leaders to take cover. With a band contest, labeled "for the Division Championship" held last Wednesday, the first skirmish of this free for all has taken place. But the winner does not go unmoled. Oh no—for on every side is a new challenger springing up with a lusty clarinet call, and beating the drums for their own organization. Latest to fling the gauntlet is the Jazz Unit of the 156th Infantry.

Sending the information that they have heretofore been unable to speak forth, they have now dug in and await reply from any rhythm makers interested in a bit of musical mayhem.

Hollywood Or Blanding?

Hollywood is apparently well represented in Company L of the 124th Infantry. The company boasts of a Bob Burns (Corporal Robert W. Burns of Sarasota), and also a Robert Taylor (private first class Robert C. Taylor, another Sarasota son.)

Too Much Trouble For The Money Says Selectee

It might have been stubbornness, it might have been just plain laziness . . . or it might have been that the recruit in Co. E, 156th Inf., had plenty of money. But . . . whatever it was . . . he is booked with a debt of \$87 on his supply sergeant's ledger.

The selectee arrived at the company street minus all his equipment but the clothes he was wearing.

"Say," asked the sergeant, "didn't you get any more equipment than that at Camp Shelby?"

"Sure," came the answer.

"Well, where is it?" the sergeant asked, puzzled.

"Aw, I left it at Shelby," was the laconic reply. It was too heavy to carry so I couldn't be worried with it."

'Private' Ratings For Dixie Privates

Highest ranking privates in the Dixie Division at least among the boys of their own company—are "Master Private" A. W. Bell and "Technical Private" Alfred J. Moss, Service Co., both working in the 156th postoffice.

The story goes like this. The boys were both living in a tent full of technical sergeants and staff sergeants who work in regimental headquarters. They were the only privates in the tent . . . and consequently felt a little out of place.

So their tentmates decided to cheer them up. Sgt. Ira C. Dimmick, one of their buddies, got two promotion certificates. From then on, the cheering-up process was easy. Bell and Moss received their "promotions" the next morning.

And now the boys are happy. There aren't many "Master" Privates or "Technical" . . . even in fun . . . in the 31st Division.

Row On Row—The Petunias Grow

Top honors as the most sentimental unit in the Dixie Division undoubtedly can go to the Headquarters Battery of the 116th Field Artillery's First Battalion. This battery has planted flowers around the mess hall. Zennias, marigolds, larkspur, magic carpets, petunias, bachelor buttons and asters will soon blossom forth in a profusion of smells and a riot of colors if the seeds planted this week will grow.

Battery Commander 1st Lt. Martin Caraballa, First Sergeant Bradley Shaw, and Mess Sergeant Billy Neel, all of Tampa, put their heads together to plan systematic beautification of the battery area. The plan was executed and included a decorative rail fence around the mess hall. Between the one rail and the ground are several parallel and horizontal strands of wire, which serve the dual purpose of beautification and keeping out of the flower beds located in the yard wide space between the fence and hall, the several dog mascots in the battery.

An oak rail fence has been constructed entirely surrounding the battery, with an attractive entrance made of pine tree trunks. A twig sign dangling from the overhead portion of the gateway proudly announces "Hq. 1 Bn." The company street has been polished with sawdust which keeps down the dust (when wet), prevents growth of weeds, and looks attractive. Three rustic bridges cross the ditch from the road to the company area. The duckwalks are neat and in geometric patterns.

Can You Beat It?

Company H, 124th Infantry, set quite a record last week on the machine gun range, qualifying 64 men and 4 officers for a perfect record.

'Name' Musicians From Neighbors To Play For Dixie

Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock a 14-piece jazz band from the 43rd Division's 102nd Infantry will present a program of popular and swing music in the Dixie Division recreation hall. The band, according to Norm Leyden, leader and saxophonist, is brushing up on a number of southern favorites, and will give a special arrangement of "San Antonio Rose." Dixieites are urged to come out and see what the 43rd has on the ball.

The band includes Hank Freeman formerly with Artie Shaw, Henry Singer formerly with Tony Pastor's orchestra, Teddy Perkman once Pastor's drummer, Jack Reed former trumpeter with Rudy Vallee, and Carl Flak from Ozzie Nelson's band.

Uses Interpreter

What would you do if you were an officer and had four men assigned to your company who couldn't speak a word of English and no one in the company who could talk French?

That was the problem confronting Lt. Frank Husband, Jr., who is in charge of training selectees in Company B, 156th Infantry, last week.

The four men, all south Louisiana "Cajuns," had never before been out of their French speaking, trappers' communities until they joined the Army, so when they arrived at the B Company street both they and the officers were at a loss to know what to do.

However the problem is now solved. Lt. Husband borrowed an interpreter from Company F, 156th Infantry, an outfit speaking French almost entirely. He gives the commands in English, the interpreter repeats it in French and as a result the recruits are not only beginning to pick up the movements from the interpreter's commands but also are beginning to understand the orders in English.

Well—Maybe Just Two

"Teller of Tall Tales" is what they're calling Corp. James C. Shavers down in Co. A, 156th Inf.

Corp. Shavers, sent out one day last week on a reconnaissance patrol with eight men to aid him, returned late in the afternoon to report that he'd been captured by three companies.

Something in the story didn't ring true. The company commander, presuming that the squad had been captured by a strong force, had moved forward ready for battle . . . into an empty area.

The men in the company decided to investigate. Questioning of the enemy revealed nothing. None had seen the squad or made any captures. Finally a corporal spoke up . . . "Sure. Me and my squad took 'em. I had eight men and we surrounded them."

Corp. Shaver hasn't spoken about the three companies since then.

Sleep Saver

Newest way of getting a few moments extra sleep in the morning is credited to Pvt. Thomas Guidry, Service Co., 156th Inf. He merely puts his fresh clothes on before he goes to bed at night, thereby relieving himself of the necessity of dressing.